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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/762,453	01/23/2004	An-Sheng Chang	TAIW 207	5481

7590 06/13/2006

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EXAMINER

MARTINEZ, DAVID E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2181

DATE MAILED: 06/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/762,453	Applicant(s) CHANG, AN-SHENG	
	Examiner David E. Martinez	Art Unit 2181	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 May 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 6, 10, 11 and 13-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 6, 10, 11, 13-16 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 17 and 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.


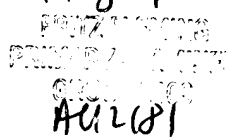
Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.


 Supervisor  6/12/2006
 AU 2181

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3, 6, 10, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,275,946 to Meir in view of US Patent No. 5,565,759 to Dunstan.

1. With regards to claims 1 and 6-8, Meir teaches an interface card [fig 1 element 10] for connection to a host [fig 3 element 22 including element 10] and a power supply module [fig 1 element 16 or fig 3 element 28], the power supply module supplying power to the host, the interface card [fig 1 element 10] comprising:

- a power charging module, for connection to the power supply module [fig 1 element 20];

- a host power connecting module, for connection to the host [fig 3, 3-pronged connector element where element 30 plugs into that is inside element 10 column 3 lines 4-20];

- a power module [fig 1 element 16], connected to the power charging module [fig 1 element 20] and the host power connecting module [fig 3, 3-pronged connector element where element 30 plugs into that is inside element 10 column 3 lines 4-20];

- wherein the power module [fig 1 element 16] provides electrical power to the host [fig 3, element 22] when the power supply module is low in capacity [column 2 lines 37-40], and the power module is recharged via the power charging module [column 3 lines 59-62] by the power supply module of the host when the power module is low in capacity [column 2 lines 9-20]

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and column 4 lines 11-14 – charging through the pc slot, or charging from an electrical outlet which could also be a power supply module to the host].

Meir teaches all of the above limitation as well as a control module detecting a power state of both the power module and the power supply module [column 1 lines 15-22], and sending a warning message *to a user* – not to the host - when the power module and the external power source are found to be abnormal [column 5 lines 39-47]. Meir is silent as to sending a warning message to a host when either one of the power module and the external power source is low in capacity. However, Dunstan teaches sending a message to a host to warn a user about potentially dangerous situation for the benefit of having the user rectify those potentially dangerous situations [column 8 lines 45-53].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of both Meir and Dunstan to the send a warning message to a host when either of the power module and the power supply module is low in capacity for the benefit of having the user rectify potentially dangerous situations.

2. With regards to claims 2 and 10, Meir teaches the connection between the interface card and the host can be through any PC slot [column 1 lines 15-22] and mentions the PCI slot () being one of the options [column 5 lines 6-11]. Meir is silent as to the interface card of claim 1, wherein the connection between the interface card and the host uses an ISA bus. However, the ISA bus is well known in the art to be used by legacy systems to communicate with peripheral devices.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Meir and those that were well known, to allow the internal card and the host to use an ISA bus to communicate, for the benefit of being able to support legacy systems.

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3. With regards to claims 3 and 11, Meir teaches the interface card of claim 1, wherein the connection between the interface card and the host uses a PCI bus [column 5 lines 6-11].

Claims 19, 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,275,946 to Meir in view of US Patent No. 5,565,759 to Dunstan and further in view of US Patent Application Publication No. US 2004/0243826 A1 to Wang.

4. With regards to claim 19, steps (a)-(f) are of the same scope as claim 1 above thus are rejected under the same rationale. Furthermore in step (c), to transmit a warning message to the host via a signal transmission module (a communications interface) is taught by the combination of Meir and Dunstan [Dunstan column 8 lines 45-53, the transmission of a message to a host is done through a communications interface] for the same reasons as those in claim 1 above. The combination of Meir and Dunstan teach all of the above limitations but is silent as to in step (f), controlling the computer system to automatically save data and its current state, and (g) shutting down the computer system once the data is saved. However, Wang teaches controlling the computer system to automatically save data and its current state, and shutting down the computer system once the data is saved for the benefit of protecting user data from being lost when the computer system is running on backup power that is running out [abstract, paragraphs 2, 6, 8, 19].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of both Meir, Dunstan and Wang to control the computer system to automatically save data and its current state, and shutting down the computer system once the data is saved for the benefit of protecting user data from being lost when the computer system is running on backup power that is running out.

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5. With regards to claim 13, the method of claim 19, Wang wherein step (g) is followed by the step of returning the computer system to its saved state when it is restarted [paragraph 20] for the same reasons as those set forth in claim 19 above.

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,275,946 to Meir in view of US Patent No. 5,565,759 to Dunstan in view of US Patent Application Publication No. US 2004/0243826 A1 to Wang and further in view of "IBM Beep Codes and MAC Beep Tones".

6. With regards to claim 14, the combination of Meir, Dunstan and Wang are silent as to the method of claim 19, wherein step (a) is preceded by the step of checking whether the interface card functions normally. However, checking if interface cards function normally are taught by the IBM Beep Codes and MAC Beep Tones which are performed if there is a malfunction with the interface at boot time for the benefit of warning the user of a malfunction with an interface card [IBM BIOS beep].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Meir, Wang and the IBM Beep Codes and MAC Beep Tones to check whether the interface card functions normally for the benefit of warning the user that there is a malfunction with the interface card.

Claims 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,275,946 to Meir in view of US Patent No. 5,565,759 to Dunstan and US Patent Application Publication No. US 2004/0243826 A1 to Wang further in view of "IBM Beep Codes and MAC Beep Tones" as applied to claim 14 above.

7. With regards to claims 15 and 16, Dunstan teaches sending a message to a host to warn a user about a current problem situation for the benefit of having the user rectify the current problem situations [column 8 lines 45-53].

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 17 and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art of record along or in combination fail to teach or fairly suggest a signal transmission module connected between a power module and a control module, the control module sending and receiving messages from the host via the signal transmission module.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 5/30/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With regards to claims 1 and 6, applicant argues "Meir and Dunstan do not disclose the host power connecting module of the present invention defined in and integrated with the other elements recited" [remarks page 8 lines 2-4]. The Examiner respectfully disagrees, The host power connecting module appears to be nothing more than a power interface which is explained in full detail above under the claim rejection for the respective claims.

With regards to applicant's arguments directed to claim 19 in page 9 of the remarks, the Examiner respectfully disagrees for the same reasons as above.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

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the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David E. Martinez whose telephone number is (571) 272-4152. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fritz M. Fleming can be reached on 571-272-4145. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DEM

David E. Martinez
Supervising *6/12/2006*
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